

those of the State Society that do much to correct these evils. Every county society should be represented by an active delegation, and particularly by the secretary of the society, for on him falls most of the work; where there is a good, active secretary, there will be found a good live county society, and as the secretary is the working member of the society, he certainly should attend the meeting of the State body and participate in its work. Next month we hope to publish an outline of the program which, the JOURNAL is informed, will be unusually good and will embody some very carefully thought-out changes from the regular order of things. Do not fail to attend.

Now and then there is something that comes along and encourages those who are working for better organization of the medical profession and more active enlightenment of the public. In this issue there are two items, to be found elsewhere, which are very encouraging. One is the information furnished by Dr. Hoag as to the supervision of school children in Pasadena. In the education of our children we, as a people, offer another striking illustration of our almost total disregard for life and health, with a full appreciation of wealth and what goes to the getting of it. Thus we recognize by the existence and maintenance of our public school system, the value and the benefit to the individual of an education; but we do practically nothing to supervise the health of the growing child when he is being educated. We offer no protection to him, in either health, life or the aid in his own individual efforts which may be suggested by competent medical supervision. Here and there about the country one may note a school in which there is an occasional or periodic examination of school children, but the continued supervision of them during their entire stay in the school, as indicated by Dr. Hoag, is almost unique. And it is right that this work, as he justly points out, of tremendous value to the child, should be paid for just as much as the work of the one who teaches the child common knowledge should be paid for. It is true that our profession is altruistic, but that we should be called upon to do work of this very necessary and valuable nature for nothing, is carrying altruism to the point of absurd imposition. Communities of men will devote their energies and their resources to the conservation of material prosperity and not murmur; but when they are requested to devote some portion of their resources to the conservation of their own health and sanitary welfare, they do more than murmur—they howl. Why?

The other item of encouraging information is the report of the year's work which comes from Santa Barbara County. Here is one of the smaller counties of the State, having a county society which is not and can not be a large one, yet which has done much during the past year to bring the members of the

profession in touch with each other, and the profession of the county in touch with the citizens. Matters of hygiene, public health, sanitation, and the like, should be subjects for common discussion between physicians and laymen of all of our communities, through the medium of the county medical society. This has been written of so frequently in the JOURNAL that perhaps the iteration may become tiresome; yet it will continue to be referred to. Santa Barbara County is to be highly congratulated upon its county society, and the JOURNAL urges the society to continue, in the coming year, the excellent work it has begun in the year just closing. Meet frequently with the laymen of your community and teach them something of the work our profession is trying to do—for their own good and their own benefit, so that they may aid and not hinder us in the work.

In a recent issue of the JOURNAL we stated that the *Western Druggist* had been guilty of printing an untruth when it said that Dr. McCormack was not correct when he accused the N. A. R. D. of pernicious activity in the various legislatures against pure food and drug legislation, and we proved it. The *Western Druggist*, in reply, can find nothing to say except to make a personal attack upon Dr. Philip Mills Jones and accuse him of all sorts of things in connection with his active support, a few years ago, of the plan to establish a bureau for the certification of standards of food and drugs—a plan, by the way, which could not have been so awfully bad, for the Council on Pharmacy and Chemistry is now doing all the work, or most of it, that was contemplated by the old bureau plan, and the United States is doing all the rest under the pure food law. This is said merely in passing, however; the really amusing thing is the way so many of those who fatten at the nostrum trough seem to think that personal abuse is argument, and that if they can only hit a few heads with the seductive brick-bat, they will stop the onward march to pharmaceutical cleanliness and decency. Not so, gentlemen; try again. By the way, if that allusion to "the office shotgun" was in the nature of a threat, the JOURNAL takes pleasure in advising the *Western Druggist* that Dr. Philip Mills Jones visits Chicago every year—and he is not at all superstitious.

Occasionally, as one contemplates the medical profession in its sociologic aspects, he may see something cheerful and encouraging him to believe that the formerly all-pervading envy, hatred and malice is somewhat giving place to respect, friendship and co-operation. Indeed, when one thinks that up to a very few years ago our profession was to all intents and purposes absolutely without organization, and that the various units were either busily occupied in hammering each other, or dividing up into squads for the purpose of hammering other squads, any harmonious action, any